

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action mailed March 21, 2006, the Examiner rejected claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner next rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Igarashi et al. (USP 6,587,538).

The Drawings were objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. By this amendment, claims 3, 4, 5, 11, 15, 17, and 18 have been canceled, thereby obviating the drawing objection.

The Specification is objected to because of informalities. Applicant has corrected a minor typographical error in Paragraph 33 at line 18, per suggestion of the Examiner, replacing “16” with “14.”

The Examiner’s rejection to claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is rendered moot in light of applicant’s cancellation of claim 15.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Igarashi et al. Applicant has incorporated the subject matter of claim 3 into claim 1 and respectfully submits that the applied reference does not teach or suggest one or more elements of the claimed invention. Applicant calls for in claim 1, in part, at least one indexing pin connected to the scintillator module, and a collimator assembly having a plurality of collimator elements and a plurality of teeth configured to define a relative position of the plurality of collimator elements and a portion thereof configured to engage the at least one indexing pin, and wherein at least two of the plurality of teeth are constructed to flank an indexing pin. Positioning pin 100, attached to module 20, positions the module with respect to the collimator elements 104 by locating positioning pin 100 between teeth 108. *Application, Figs. 4 and 5*. A careful reading of Igarashi et al. reveals that Igarashi et al. fails to teach or suggest a plurality of collimator elements and a portion thereof configured to engage the at least one indexing pin.

Igarashi et al. describes a detector unit 240 that includes a module base 241, and four detector packs 242a to 242d disposed in a file in the module base 241. In the module base 241, a positioning pin 243 is provided so as to be projected. *Igarashi et al., Col. 8, lns. 35-39*. Igarashi et al. further describes notched grooves 221b and 222b respectively formed in supports 221 and 222. *Igarashi et al., Col. 7, lns. 54-55*. Positioning pin 243 positions detector unit 240 with collimator module 220 by use of grooves 222b. *Igarashi et al., Figs. 8A and 9A*.

Thus, Igarashi et al. discloses a module alignment wherein the pin engages a notch, wherein the notch is separate from the collimator elements, and positioned in a structure that holds the collimator elements. The pin of Igarashi et al. does not engage with the collimator elements themselves, as does the alignment as disclosed by Applicant.

Accordingly, that which is called for in claim 1 is not disclosed or suggested in the art of record. As such, Applicant believes claim 1, and the claims which depend therefrom, are patentably distinct over the art of record.

Claims 8, 14, and 20 describe alignment teeth in a comb constructed to align collimator elements, or plates, and constructed to engage a scintillator module with an indexing pin that engages with the teeth of the comb. That which is called for in claims 8, 14, and 20, likewise, is not shown, disclosed, taught, or suggested in the art of record. As such, Applicant believes claim 8, 14, and 20, and the claims which depend therefrom, are patentably distinct over the art of record.

Therefore, in light of at least the foregoing, Applicant respectfully believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. As a result, Applicant respectfully requests timely issuance of a Notice of Allowance for claims 1, 2, 6-14, 16, 19, and 20.

Applicant hereby authorizes charging of Deposit Account No. 07-0845 for any additional fees associated with entering the aforementioned claims.

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's consideration of these Amendments and Remarks and cordially invites the Examiner to call the undersigned, should the Examiner consider any matters unresolved.

Respectfully submitted,

/Timothy J. Ziolkowski/

Timothy J. Ziolkowski
Registration No. 38,368
Direct Dial 262-376-5139
tjz@zpspatents.com

Dated: June 21, 2006
Attorney Docket No.: GEMS8081.199

P.O. ADDRESS:
Ziolkowski Patent Solutions Group, SC
14135 North Cedarburg Road
Mequon, WI 53097-1416
262-376-5170